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THE GATE'S AJAR—STEP INSIDE

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HOODACRES
DELPHINIUMS

Should this little catalog fall into the hands of a person who is not interested in its contents, it will be a courteous favor to pass it on to another who may enjoy the witchery of a Delphinium garden. And perhaps some will go so far to introduce Hoodacres Delphiniums, as to give me the names of friends who will appreciate a copy.

Chas. F. Barber

1552 Union Avenue

Portland :: Oregon

Phone Walnut 7351

Going north on Union Avenue towards the Interstate Bridge, "LARKSPUR LODGE" is located, Holland to Stafford Streets, just before the viaduct is reached. VC cars. Visitors always welcome in Delphinium time.

Fall 1924—Spring 1925

HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS



DOUBLOON

DOUBLE LIKE A ROSE, FINE DEEP COLOR, LARGE FLOWERS, EXCELLENT PLANT, AN OUTSTANDING SEEDLING OF 1923. MORE FULLY DESCRIBED WHEN READY TO OFFER.

THEIR CHARMS

"Among hardy herbaceous perennials the Delphinium or Larkspur knows no peer. Unique among hardy flowers, it is absolutely so in the towering splendor of its celestial spires, as these in endless gradations rear their tall columns to a height of six or even eight feet. Comparable to nothing but itself, it possesses a characteristic beauty and dignity of its own; distinguished of leaf, imposing in stature, unapproachable in the glistening, dazzling splendor of its flowers, as these in stately columns presently form themselves into battalions—bold, impassive, grand. The well-grown example has an air of distinction about it that is not excelled. Today it is the admired of thousands; ere long it will be the plant of the million, providing rich clouds of blue and violet flowers in never-ending variety, and without a rival in the world. Happily, too, the plant is of easy culture, succeeding in most well cultivated soils; is true perennial, not prone to fastidiousness. The plant has been enormously improved during recent years, hence has become indispensable to all who garden chiefly in the open air." (From "The Hardy Flower Book," by the English authority, Mr. E. H. Jenkins.)

THEIR ROLE

Mass in beds or borders, bold groups of one color; they are effective against tall shrubbery.

Devote entire borders to them, the heights arranged to present galleries of color.

Let them lend the needed dignity and height in the make-up of a blue border.

Use them in mixed collections or solid colors to bind together the shrubbery plantings.

Have a good row in the garden for cutting, bringing the sky into the house.

Form charming combinations with other flowers in harmonious contrasts; the imagination will suggest many such possibilities: *Thalictrums*, Sea Holly, Michaelmas Daisies, *Gladioli*, and many more; especially the beautiful *Lilium Testaceum* (the Nankeen Lily), with its fragrant buff flowers standing abreast the blue spires.

HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS



UTOPIAN

HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS represent the pinnacle of present attainment in these stately flowers. In beginning the work of selection and improvement, which has extended over a period of more than twenty years, I took advantage of the best that has been done in Europe and have continued to add the cream of their accomplishments. This has meant not only an enrichment of my own stock, but also a means of constant comparison of results.

A few years of hybridizing native species will produce remarkable results, but may be a long way from the spikes of splendidly finished flowers now available at Hoodacres. They are not heralded by lavish use of the printer's art, but make their own convincing appeal to those who discriminate between mere Delphiniums and these glorious creations.

SHIPPING EVERYWHERE. My plants are rugged and carry to the extreme parts of the country in good order. A lady in Warrenton, Virginia, writes: "I have wanted to write you of the safe arrival of the Delphiniums. I was away when they came, but they were not harmed by resting awhile in a cool cellar room and were in perfect condition when they were unpacked. I was overjoyed to find that you had been so generous." . . . "I went out to put some coal ashes at each place to keep the slugs from harming them this winter and was delighted to see them showing little green sprouts." Another writes from Butler, Penna.: "The express package with Delphiniums came today and your letter I received yesterday—very good time, I think; and you surely have reason to be proud of such beautiful, healthy plants. I assure you I feel very proud to be the owner of some of your stock." (She made the discovery of Hoodacres Delphiniums at the Portland Rose Show.) "Any time you have new varieties please don't forget me and just send on, with bill following."

HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS



EDWIN MARKHAM
(HOODACRES)

HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS

HOODACRES HYBRIDS. The unnamed Hood-acres Hybrids cannot be too highly recommended and just escape being named and propagated, by reason of their close similarity to others that are so used. They are the seedling product of the finest varieties the world affords, grown to large blooming specimens before they are sent out. Some of the parents are wonderful new kinds, not for sale at any price.

From the many thousand plants so created is set aside each season a limited number of exceptional merit and distinguished into **light**, **medium** and **dark** shades, as featured on opposite page and called

SELECTED HOODACRES HYBRIDS.

These should not be confused with the named kinds listed elsewhere in this catalog, although they vie with them in general excellence and are sold at the lower price of
\$1.00 each; \$10.00 per dozen.

HOODACRES HYBRIDS are also sold from the general planting, but without selection, except that at blooming time all defective plants are promptly destroyed. These give remarkable satisfaction and frequently single specimens from this class are found to be worth the cost of an entire dozen. The price is low enough to encourage liberal planting.

\$25.00 per hundred; \$3.50 per dozen; \$2.00 for six.

HOODACRES HYBRIDS will bloom the first season after planting and when established two flowering periods may be counted upon each year.

HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS



SPIKES OF HOODACRES HYBRIDS
DESCRIBED ON OPPOSITE PAGE

HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS

NAMED VARIETIES grown include the following:

(Kinds in heavy faced letters are Hoodacres productions.)
S indicates Single; S-D Semi-Double

LIGHT SHADES

ANDREW CARNEGIE. Soft lilac and light blue. S-D.

BRIDAL GOWN. Magnificent large white, vigorous. S. \$5.00.

JUSTINE GILBERT. Venetian blue, alternating lilac, black center; contrasty effect; large flowers, S. \$2.50.

LORENZO DE MEDICI. Lilac in rosette form, waved petals, open centre, splendid spikes, S-D. \$3.00.

MARY MALLORY ROBERTS. Soft lilac, some delicate blue in sepals, dark centers, S-D. \$1.00.

PERSIMMON. Bright light blue, bush-like plant, S. 75c.

DARK SHADES

COLE'S BLUE. Telling spikes deep gentian blue, S-D.

E. AUGUSTUS BOWLES. Blue and purple with very large golden brown centre, S-D.

EDWIN MARKHAM. Strong spikes, mauve, backed blue, small dark centre, impressive, S-D. \$5.00.

HAUTEUR. Tall purple and violet, large centre, S-D. \$2.00.

JAMES KELWAY. Violet blue with white centre, S.

KING OF DELPHINIUMS. Plum, white centre, S-D.

PURPLE MASK. Rich petunia violet, extra large flowers, tall, numerous long side spikes, S-D. \$5.00.

REV. E. LASCELLES. Blue, large white centre, S-D.

THE ALAKE. Tall, long spikes, large blue purple, S-D. \$5.00.

TUSCARORA. Deep violet purple, white centre, S-D. \$2.00.

INTERMEDIATE SHADES

BEATRICE. Light mauve and clear blue, large shapely flowers, remarkable for symmetry and vigor, S-D. \$3.00.

BLUEBIRD. "Amparo blue," sepia eye, large, S.

CALAPOOIA. Ultramarine blue, white centre, S. \$1.00.

CELESTIAL VISITOR. Dazzling gentian blue, white eye, giving the pure blue effect, vigorous, S. \$1.00.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT. Marine blue, white eye, S. \$1.00.

LOUELLA AMES. Violet and blue, large centre, late, S-D.

SACAJAWEA. Light mauve, edged wistaria blue; builds up rapidly, strong spikes, choice, S-D. \$3.00.

QUEEN OF THE LILACS. Lilac and blue, S-D.

ZENOBIA. Light mauve and pale blue, tall, S-D.

Absence of price indicates no stock this season.

HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS



SACAJAWEA
(HOODACRES)

WREXHAM, or "Hollyhock," DELPHINIUMS

In 1921 there came out of Wales, to the London exhibitions, the marvelous "Wrexham" seedlings which literally "swept the boards," so massive and effective were they. Visitors continually exclaimed: "Why, they are like Hollyhocks "

The strain is conspicuous for its broad-based tall spikes, carrying largest individual flowers that run largely to the rich deep shades, much prized by experienced growers.

Having been so fortunate as to make the acquaintance by correspondence, of the originator of this strain, Mr. Watkin Samuel, at the beginning of their introduction, I have for the past two seasons been working up a stock and now ready to accept orders.

Even the young plants blooming for the first time last season were a revelation to Delphinium collectors and their massive character in fuller maturity this year was cause for fresh amazement.

The illustrations accompanying are intended to represent the type, photographed from a few of the plants selected to propagate and breed from. Out of a thousand seedlings there are no two alike but some are quite similar and these duplicates are to be sold. All are very beautiful and abundantly worth the price.

There will also be several thousand second generation "Wrexham" seedlings to select from this season and some splendid things are looked for. No named varieties for sale until 1925.

Plants \$1.00, \$2.00, \$3.00 and \$5.00 each, the latter being most typical of the strain.

HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS



ARCADIAN
(WREXHAM)

LUXURIANS

Hoodacres has evolved a new race of Delphiniums, the highest standard for vigor yet attained. As a seedling from the variety Chevalier, in 1923, Luxurians was full of promise, but in the spring of 1924 its real strength became apparent.

Although touching elbows with the strongest growing kinds in the Hoodacres planting and under identical cultural conditions, it stood out conspicuous from the very first with the most luxuriant foliage ever seen. It put forth large, bright green leaves, from the ground up in close tiers, every leaf remaining in perfect condition long after the flowers had passed.

The leaves are like leather in texture, the largest ones exceeding ten inches in diameter, of the seven-part form, and weighing more than twice as much as any other from many hundred plants in its section. The stalk is like bamboo and disdains such a thing as staking.

Flowers are very large, pinkish light mauve, single, with big spreading black centre. Unlike single flowers generally the petals (sepals properly) remain until the seed capsules have almost fully developed. After the main spike blooms out the plant shoots up its wealth of side-spikes that rival the main one in cutting value.

Luxurians has been much admired for its blossoms as well as its other qualities, but its greatest value seems to lie in its use for building up great vigor in the race as a whole and in forms, otherwise beautiful, that lack stamina.

It will be noted in the photo that the monster leaves make the spike look small in comparison, but the florest are more than two inches in diameter.

The few plants available this season, \$50.00 each.

HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS



LUXURIANS
(HOODACRES)

SEEDS OF HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS are carefully saved from plants known to give finest results. All our advancement over existing kinds comes by cross pollenization of seeds. From many reports the quality of Hoodacres seedlings is unrivalled, particularly in the number of exceptional specimens produced.

Liberal packets, \$1.00; small size, 50c.

"WREXHAM" SEEDS; packets, \$1.00.

GROWING SEEDLINGS. The seed-bed, whether flats, cold-frame or open ground, should be composed of fine loamy soil, with sand added if required for perfect friability, and containing some leaf mold. Late summer sowing, preferably in cold frames without glass, where they are to remain over winter, will bring flowering plants the following summer. Transplant to blooming quarters in early spring one foot apart. Very early spring sowing will also produce some bloom the same season. Sow in hot-beds with usual sash treatment, gradually increasing air as needed, until large enough to transplant into flats. Later spring sowing will furnish plants for blooming the following June.

Once transplanting before going into permanent place will induce a fuller root system. Soil for this re-setting may be richer, bone meal being a good and safe fertilizer. Snip off the tip ends of long roots when transplanting.

When flats are well filled with leafage is the signal for planting out.

Charles F. Barber,
Portland, Oregon.

My Dear Sir:

Hollywood, Los Angeles, Cal.,
July 28, 1924

Your statement when shipping Delphiniums—"that you welcomed comparison with those I was planting from other growers" was well founded. They are the best I have. One plant, that bloomed early, was cut to the ground. And now, July 28th, the second growth, is six feet-eight inches tall, with a flower spike of three feet, and is very beautiful.

I will need two dozen plants from you next fall; dark and light colors. Let me know when ready to ship, and I will send check.

Very truly,

U. S. Hollister

HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS



LILIUM TESTACEUM BLOOMING ABREAST THE DELPHINIUMS. ITS REMARKABLE NANKKEEN YELLOW COLOR AND EXQUISITE FRAGRANCE MAKE IT IDEAL FOR THIS ASSOCIATION WITH THE BLUES.

SMALL BULBS \$1.00 EACH; LARGE SIZE \$1.50.

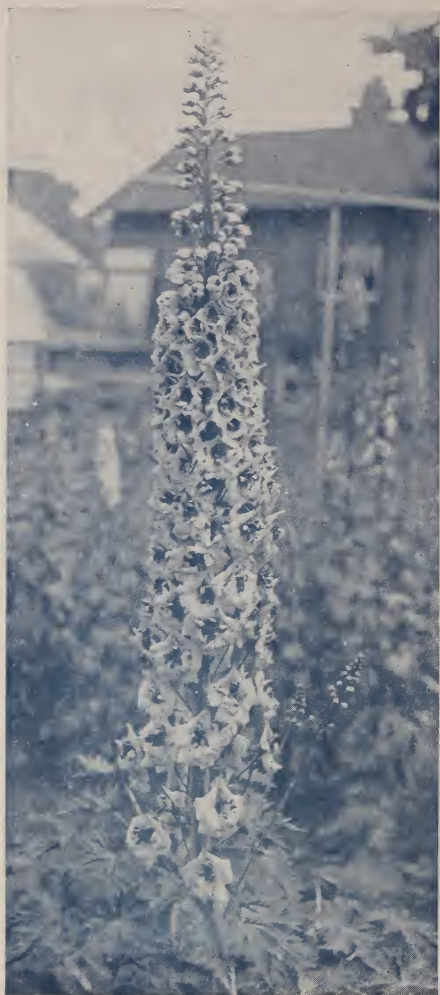
HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS



ZENDA
(WREXHAM)

THEIR CULTURE. Plants are safely moved throughout spring and fall to all normal locations, but in very cold, wet soils preference goes to spring planting. Delphiniums set in autumn make unchecked headway when the spring urge comes and therefore make better showing than those set in spring; they are among the first herbaceous plants to start growth. After getting well grown plants allow ample space for each and open the earth eighteen inches or more in depth, filling one-half with well-rotted manure and strong soil, even good clay, mixed equal parts and tamped; complete filling with good garden soil. Place crowns two inches and no more below surface, the roots well spread and soil firmed against them before leveling. Avoid dense shade and roots of trees.

When growth first starts in spring dig around each plant a trowel of bone-meal. Cut faded spikes to prevent seeding. It is the nature of hybrid Delphiniums to bloom a second time in the season and as the second growth appears the old stalk yellows, is no longer required, and should be cut down. Do not force this second growth, rather allow a short resting period, then give another supply of bone-meal, being careful not to destroy the fine surface-feeding roots, and water generously. If slugs or snails trouble, use plenty of coarse sharp sand, or rough coal ashes, in and around the plant. A little mound of the same over the plant in winter is also a safeguard against climatic changes. If the weaker growths are removed when plants are a few inches high the remaining ones will benefit. Well grown Delphiniums will bloom the first season after planting and being true perennials should with favorable conditions, increase in size and grandeur each season. *Fall planting strongly recommended where possible.*



NOBLEMAN
(WREXHAM)